

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the following paragraphs as follows:

At page 14, please amend the second complete paragraph, lines 10-17, as follows:

In this embodiment, the gas inlet pipeline includes: a tube portion 43, which has an electrical insulating property and passes through the outside conductor 21 of the torch body 20 in the radial direction from the outside of the torch body 20; a first tube portion 44, which is connected to the tube portion 43 and passes through the inserting section 42 of the lid 40 in the radial direction; and a second tube portion 45, which is connected to the first tube portion 44, and extends inwardly in the radial direction in the inside of the antenna 45 28 and then extends in the axial direction toward the top of the antenna 45 28 in the inside thereof, to open to the top.

At page 14, please amend the third complete paragraph, lines 18-20, as follows:

In this embodiment, with the above-mentioned configuration, gas is guided into the electric discharge tube 22 from the top of the antenna 45 28. Also in this example, the same effect as in the example of FIG. 2 can be obtained.